

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06033 021443Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-07 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 TRSE-00 COME-00 /080 W

----- 028290

R 020925Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 868

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6033

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, PK

SUBJ: NATIONALIZATION PLANS DENIED

REF: ISLAMABAD 3172

1. A GOP PRESS RELEASE JUNE 27 DENIED THAT THE GOP HAD EVER INTENDED TO NATIONALIZE ROAD TRANSPORT, OR THAT ANY FURTHER NATIONALIZATIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE NEXT ELECTIONS. THE OPERATIVE PORTION OF THE TEXT IS: QUOTE: IT IS NOTIFIED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENT TO NATIONALIZE ROAD TRANSPORT. AS THE POSITION HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY CLARIFIED, THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT HAVE FULLY IMPLEMENTED THEIR ELECTION MANIFESTO BY TAKING OVER CERTAIN IMPORTANT SECTORS OF COUNTRY'S ECONOMY LIKE MAJOR INDUSTRIES, BANKS AND LIFE INSURANCE. DURING THE PRESENT TERMS OF OFFICE, THE GOVERNMENT DO NOT PROPOSE TO NATIONALIZE OR TAKE OVER ANY OTHER SECTOR INCLUDING ROAD TRANSPORT. UNQUOTE.

2. PRESS RELEASE ATTRIBUTES "IMPRESSION" OF GOP DESIRE TO NATIONALIZE ROAD TRANSPORT TO MISINTERPRETATION OF PUNJAB GOVERNMENT ACTION EARMARKING CERTAIN ROUTES
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 06033 021443Z

EXCLUSIVELY FOR GOVERNMENT-OWNED BUSES. IT STATES NO

FURTHER SUCH EARMARKINGS ARE CONTEMPLATED, THOUGH GOP IS CONCERNED ABOUT INADEQUACY OF TRANSPORT AND WILL TRY TO PROVIDE MORE BUS AND RAIL SERVICE.

3. COMMENT: WHATEVER THE REASONS BEHIND THIS RETREAT FROM BHUTTO'S EARLIER ANNOUNCEMENT (REFTEL, THIS IS A MORE SENSIBLE POSITION FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE. WE BELIEVE THE GOP INTENDS TO STICK BY ITS PLEDGE NOT TO NATIONALIZE ANYTHING ELSE BEFORE THE NEXT ELECTIONS, ALTHOUGH THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WILL PROBABLY NOT LAY TO REST ALL RUMORS OF NATIONALIZATION PLANS.
LUPPI

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Message Attributes

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